Docket No.: 247322003700

(PATENT)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of: Yasuo SUDA et al.

Application No.: 10/588,612 Confirmation No.: 7210

Filed: February 4, 2005 Art Unit: 1625

For: LINKER COMPOUND, LIGAND Examiner: T. Solola

CONJUGATE, AND PRODUCTION

METHODS THEREOF

FIRST PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

MS Amendment Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS

Prior to examination on the merits, Applicant respectfully requests entry of this Preliminary Amendment for the above-captioned patent application.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 14 of this paper.